

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/069 W

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R 051150Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6341
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MILAN

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, IT
SUBJECT: ITALO-SOVIET COMMERCIAL AIRLINE AGREEMENT

1. EMBASSY DAO RECENTLY PROVIDED COPY OF NOTES PREPARED BY AIR ATTACHE COLONEL JOSEPH VALENTI FROM AN EARLY JULY CONVERSATION WITH DR. HUMBERTO NORDIO, MANAGING DIRECTOR, ALITALIA AIRLINES WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST.

2. NORDIO DESCRIBED AN AGREEMENT CONCLUDED WITH THE SOVIET MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION WHEREIN ALITALIA WILL OPERATE SCHEDULED FLIGHTS FROM ROME TO MOSCOW FOUR TIMES A WEEK. AEROFLOT, IN TURN, WILL OPERATE CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM LENINGRAD/MOSCOW TO ROME. THE AGREEMENT ALSO ALLOWED FOR A REDUCTION OF \$2 MILLION DEBT OWED TO THE SOVIET AIRLINE BY ALITALIA.

3. NORDIO REMARKED HE FELT THE SOVIETS CONCLUDED THE AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN FUTURE ITALIAN SUPPORT IN THEIR QUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP IN IATA. HE PREDICTED AN EXPANSION OF AEROFLOT'S INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL OPERATION. THE ITALIANS, HE SAID, ARE

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MEANWHILE CONSIDERING UTILIZING THEIR OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS TO TRANSMIT THE USSR FOR FAR EAST DESTINATIONS.HOLMES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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